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Proposed Maximum Residue Limit PMRL2012-49

# S-metolachlor

*(publié aussi en français)*

**15 November 2012**

This document is published by the Health Canada Pest Management Regulatory Agency. For further information, please contact:

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ISSN: 1925-0835 (print)
1925-0843 (online)

Catalogue number: H113-24/2012-49E (print version)
H113-24/2012-49E-PDF (PDF version)

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Under the authority of the *Pest Control Products Act*, Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) has concluded that the addition of new uses on cantaloupes, cucumbers and strawberries to the product labels of Dual Magnum Herbicide and Dual II Magnum Herbicide, containing technical grade S-metolachlor, is acceptable. The specific uses approved in Canada are detailed on the labels of Dual Magnum and Dual II Magnum, *Pest Control Products Act* Registration Number 25728 and 25729, respectively.

The evaluation of these S-metolachlor applications indicated that the end-use products have merit and value and the human health and environmental risks associated with the new uses are acceptable. Details regarding the registrations can be found in the corresponding Evaluation Reports available in the Pesticides and Pest Management section of Health Canada's website, under Public Registry, Pesticide Product Information Database.[1]

Before registering a pesticide for food use in Canada, the PMRA must determine the quantity of residues that are likely to remain in or on the food when the pesticide is used according to label directions and that such residues will not be a concern to human health. This quantity is then legally established as a maximum residue limit (MRL). An MRL applies to the identified raw agricultural food commodity as well as to any processed food product that contains it, except where separate MRLs are specified for the raw agricultural commodity and a processed product made from it.

Consultation on the proposed MRLs for S-metolachlor is being conducted via this document (see Next Steps, the last section of this document).

To comply with Canada's international trade obligations, consultation on the proposed MRLs is also being conducted internationally by notifying the World Trade Organization, as coordinated by the Standards Council of Canada.

The proposed MRLs in Canada in or on food, to be added to the MRLs already legally established for S-metolachlor, are as follows.

**Table 1 Proposed Maximum Residue Limits for S-metolachlor**

| Common Name | Residue Definition | MRL (ppm) | Food Commodity |
|---|---|---|---|
| S-metolachlor | 2-chloro-*N*-(2-ethyl-6-methylphenyl)-*N*-[(1*S*)-2-methoxy-1-methylethyl]acetamide and 2-chloro-*N*-(2-ethyl-6-methylphenyl)-*N*-[(1*R*)-2-methoxy-1-methylethyl]acetamide, including the metabolites 2-[(2-ethyl-6-methylphenyl)amino]-1-propanol and 4-(2-ethyl-6-methylphenyl)-2-hydroxy-5-methyl-3-morpholinone, each expressed as the parent compound | 0.13<br><br>0.1 | Cucumbers<br><br>Melons (Crop Subgroup 9A), strawberries |

ppm = parts per million

[1] The relevant reports can be accessed by selecting Programs and Special Actions/Minor Use/Historical and requesting the Evaluation Report listed under Application Number 2010-2992.

MRLs are proposed for each commodity included in the melon subgroup in accordance with the Residue Chemistry Crop Groups webpage in the Pesticides and Pest Management section of Health Canada's website.

A complete list of pesticide MRLs established in Canada, as of the date indicated, can be found on the Maximum Residue Limits for Pesticides webpage in the Pesticides and Pest Management section of Health Canada's website.

**International Situation and Trade Implications**

Table 2 compares the MRLs proposed for S-metolachlor in Canada with corresponding American tolerances and Codex MRLs.[2] Tolerances established in the United States are listed in the Electronic Code of Federal Regulations, 40 CFR Part 180, by pesticide. Currently, there are no Codex MRLs listed for S-metolachlor in or on any commodity on the Codex Alimentarius Pesticide Residues in Food webpage.

**Table 2 Comparison of Canadian MRLs, American Tolerances and Codex MRLs**

| Food Commodity | Canadian MRL (ppm) | American Tolerance (ppm) | Codex MRL (ppm) |
|---|---|---|---|
| Cucumbers | 0.13 | 0.13 | Not Established |
| Melons (Crop Subgroup 9A) | 0.1 | 0.1 | Not Established |
| Strawberries | 0.1 | Not Established | Not Established |

**Next Steps**

The PMRA invites the public to submit written comments on the proposed MRLs for S-metolachlor up to 75 days from the date of publication of this document. Please forward your comments to Publications (see the contact information on the cover page of this document). The PMRA will consider all comments received before making a final decision on the proposed MRLs and posting a corresponding Established Maximum Residue Limit document in the Pesticides and Pest Management section of Health Canada's website.

[2] The Codex Alimentarius Commission is an international organization under the auspices of the United Nations that develops international food standards, including MRLs.